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APR 21 2003

GROUP 1700

PATENT
Customer Number 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 5999.0111.00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Giacomo Stefano ROBA et al.)
)
Application Serial No. 09/465,016) Group Art Unit: 1731
)
Filed: December 16, 1999) Examiner: Hoffmann, J.
)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
FORMING AN OPTICAL FIBER)
PREFORM BY COMBUSTIONLESS)
HYDROLYSIS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action mailed November 21, 2002, the period for reply having been extended to April 21, 2003, by a Petition for Extension of Time and associated Petition Fee filed April 17, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification, as follows:

Delete page 1 in its entirety.

Page 6, lines 5-10, amend the paragraph, as follows:

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